

Baraboo Wis June 10th / 94
Judge Albion. W. Young
Mayville N.Y.

Dear Sir

Your very full and unexpected letter,
unexpected, because of its length.^{"at hand"} You had
before given me some intimation of your con-
dition and I only looked for a very brief acck-
owledgement. It is really gratifying to receive so much
of a letter, in your present condition, when perhaps
you should not have written anything. My thank-
ks are due for the ^{memorial,} Douglass, a volum I greatly
prize, and the pamphlets all of which come
safely to hand

In a communication, written about the
time of the receipt of your letter, in an effort to
induce a capable woman to take up the race
question. I said - "Here in the North there seems
to be an almost universal prejudice, shameful
prejudice against colored people, which so
obstructs their way, as to deprive them of the
right to make the best of their opportunities as
white men do.

Your efforts in New York, to obtain a position in editorial work,

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Your efforts in New York, to obtain a position as editorial writer, very fully and markedly confirms and sustains that statement. What a shameful condition of affairs, in a nation of people claiming to be Christian. Christian! I feel very much like saying, as Tolstoi is reported to have said. "I hope never to hear the word Christian mentioned again."

A writer on the New Testament says, that the teachings of Jesus, carried orally for near a century, were colored in many cases by the feelings and character of the people through whom they came. United States Christianity, so called, must have been colored and seriously damaged, during its sojourn with slavery - having lost much of its purity before that time; seemingly continuing pretty much after the same manner since, in all matters relating to the negro.

If the churches of to day, taught, as Jesus and the other great Profits of the world taught, and had been so teaching during the past generation, man, right and justice would ^{more} fully prevail. That is, devoting their organizations, their activities to the elevation and betterment of people - leaving the salvation of souls, to the All wise Father, who, probably, has some knowledge of the business.

The treatment you are receiving, have received in the year past, from educated people - people claiming to be efficient members of the best civilization the world has produced, is shameful in the extreme.

That sitting down on you, in New York, is another indication of the money getting, individual selfish tendency, which seems to be prevalent in all walks of life.

You have done a grand and noble work judge, in your long struggle for and your efforts to educate towards right, justice and equal opportunities for all. Some of the seed you have sown, must have fallen on good ground, in many places among people, now growing, and will bud and blossom by cultivation of humble souls, trated, it may be, by tears to come from continued wrongs, mingled. I fear, with the blood of continuing forces - for the black man will not always submit. Some body has said, the best steps in progress follow war. Must our next great advance, come from the uprising of our people, having the blood of the stolen Africans in their veins, in a noble struggle for a manhood position - for right and justice so long denied them.

It is eminently proper for you to give up the fight so long maintained. Your sacrifices have been everything that could be asked. Your coming retirement, absence from this country, will, I believe, enable you to make progress, in your literary work, to fully satisfy you.

As to myself, it is very probable, I will feel obliged to continue, in my inefficient way, in efforts to help, if possible, to bring about the conditions you labor for so long and so well. The Quaker blood in my veins. Perhaps, an inheritance, from ancestors who labored long and faithful in behalf of the oppressed negro slaves, may hold me to the work, regardless of profit or honor - and perhaps, the being classed as a negro. But, I have an advantage over you, my "degradation" will be short, being now well along in my 7th year, and the work I do, must soon become less and less.

I will keep you in mind during your absence and send of the things I may be called to put forth - with the understanding that, in making acknowledgments you will do so very briefly, until your ability for such work has been fully tested.

If you do not mention sending the Douglass memorial fd., it may have come from an other. Perhaps Mrs. Douglass, to whom I am sending, of late, my pamphlet. I regret not to know where it came from.

I send a Memorial Day sermon, by my preacher, a young woman, only recently admitted to the ministry. She is a Unitarian, and strikes from the shoulder, against injustice and wrongs.

I hope to get in communication with Dr. Lat
Martineau again

Yours sincerely,
Chas. H. Williams